

suspension-of-driving prohibition. Investigation and analysis of applications and recommendations for pardons are also among its responsibilities.

Policy The National Parole Board believes that an emphasis on reformation and rehabilitation, rather than on punishment, helps the offender become a law-abiding citizen.

Parole has a dual purpose — reformation of the individual and protection of society. Through guidance, it helps those who are prepared to help themselves. Through supervision, it provides protection to the public.

Protection of society is the paramount consideration of the Board. It is guided by the Parole Act — which states that the Board may grant parole if it considers that "the release of the inmate on parole would not constitute an undue risk to society".

Parole is a means to help in the rehabilitation of the offender. When it appears that the offender has benefited from treatment and training programs, and when he definitely indicates his intention and shows an ability to change, the Board may grant him parole.

So far as possible, the Board: (1) considers the offender as well as the offence; (2) deals with an offender as an individual, not a member of a group; (3) bases its consideration of each case on the assumption that what the inmate is likely to do in the future may be more significant than what he has done in the past; (4) provides adequate supervision to ensure protection of the public and assistance for a parolee; (5) considers correction and reformation as purposes of the sentence, rather than vengeance or retribution.

Eligibility for parole Eligibility for parole means that, at a certain time, an inmate may be given full consideration for parole and as a result may be released on parole.

Most inmates are eligible for parole after serving one-third of the sentence or seven years, whichever comes first. However, an offender serving a sentence in a penitentiary must serve a minimum of nine months before he becomes eligible for parole.

There are a number of exceptions to these eligibility dates:

An inmate whose parole was forfeited because he was convicted of an indictable offence must serve half his new term or seven years, whichever is the shorter period. If an offender was sentenced to